

## REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 24, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 24, 2004. Claims 1-24 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 1-24 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Claims 1 and 8 are amended to correct typographical errors. These amendments are not presented to distinguish a reference, thus, the claims as amended are entitled to a full range of equivalents.

The Examiner has restricted the claims to species of the claimed invention. Election of one of the following groups is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Species 1, defined by claims 1-7;
- II. Species 2, defined by claims 8-15;
- III. Species 3, defined by claims 16-23;
- IV. Species 4, claim 24.

Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-7, with traverse.

The Examiner asserts that no claims are generic. Applicants submit that claims 1 and 8 do not define separate species. Claim 8 includes all elements of claim 1. Thus, claim 8 is a combination of the sub-combinations of claim 1. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the species election requirement between groups I and II and, prosecution of claims 1-15.

Applicants further submit that claims 16-24 are substantially related to claim 1 and examination will not be a burden on the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request prosecution of claims 1-24.

Having addressed all issues set out in the Restriction Requirement, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Keith M. Tackett  
Registration No. 32,008

MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.  
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500  
Houston, TX 77056  
Telephone: (713) 623-4844  
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846  
Agent for Applicant(s)

310496\_1